

EYE ON IRAQ

July 1, 2005

The people of Iraq, with help from Coalition member nations, have made progress in the past few weeks. Large and small daily accomplishments marked progress toward Iraqi self-reliance. Some contributed directly to combating terrorism while others facilitated reconstruction and economic development.

What follows is a partial list of those successes:

In Tal Afar, two-hundred and forty Iraqi Police recruits departed to attend the International Police Academy. The eight-week course teaches basic law enforcement skills such as patrolling techniques, responding to a civil disturbance and traffic control. Upon graduation from the academy, the graduates will return to their home police stations and begin law enforcement duties.



An Iraqi Police recruit conducts push-ups before departing for an 8-week training course in law enforcement.

In Shumeyt Village, leaders and villagers came together to remodel al Mosque June 21. With funds secured by the Coalition, two workers selected by the Imam of the Shumeyt Mosque painted all the walls and installed air coolers, a water dispenser, carpet, fans and new entry tile.



On June 24, members of the Udaim Council, 1st Iraqi Army Battalion, and local residents gathered to officially open the Al Shima Elementary School with a ribbon cutting ceremony. The Al Shima School is one of five schools recently completed in the Udaim Nahia area.



Local residents in the Udaim Nahia area, with the help of the Iraqi and Coalition Forces, celebrated the opening of its fifth new school.

June 25, 120 soldiers from the 2nd and 3rd Iraqi Army Brigades graduated from Initial Entry Training Course. MajGen Anwar, 2nd Bde Commander, hosted the ceremony and presented awards to the honor graduates.

June 26, soldiers from the Iraqi Army and Task Force 1-30 visited a school in Abu Sayda to distribute school supplies that were donated by US citizens. The children, ranging in ages from 3 to 13, received pens, pencils, notebooks, coloring books, crayons and toys.



Iraqi children receive pens and notebooks from an Iraqi soldier when their school received a re-supply of school. The supplies were donated by US citizens.

Acting on a tip, Iraqi Army and Coalition soldiers conducted a cordon and search of several villages on the Diyala River June 29. The tip led the soldiers to the homes of several suspected insurgents and the soldiers were able to detain them without incident. During a search of the area, Iraqi and US soldiers found several weapons caches that contained rocket-propelled grenades, mortar rounds and a mortar tube.

